



Dutchess County Youth Bureau

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County Executive William Steinhaus

Recently I had the pleasure of attending the Teen Forum held by the Dutchess County Children's Services Council. The youth speakers, representing Our Lady of Lourdes Rotary Interact Club and the Howland Public Library Teen Internship Program, offered their thoughts on the topics of crossing the social reach of your peer group, teen body image and substance abuse involvement by teens. Many of the adults in the room were asking for direction on when to open a discussion on critical issues with their children. The participating young leaders' wise advice often echoed the forty developmental assets that we promote in Dutchess County to help youth grow up healthy. The speakers recommended: parents, do not put down your children through your speech; talk with children when they are young to establish good communication habits; and, involve your children in community service opportunities outside their normal social/cultural group. For teens, they suggest when seeking help to find someone they trust and who cares about them. They felt that teens often use drugs "to fit in." Family members of all ages are encouraged to learn more about the forty developmental assets at the free Kids First Fair sponsored by the CSC Youth Asset Team and Girl Scouts of Dutchess County at the Galleria Mall on Saturday, November 1, 10 AM to 2 PM.



Director's Report

By Betsy Brockway

I received a plaque this summer with the saying "Grandchildren are the reward for not

strangling your teenagers." It makes me smile every time I pass it. My thirty-three year old daughter Amie was one of those challenging teenagers who just didn't fit into the mold that my husband and I had expected, based on our own interests and the footsteps of her older brother.

Although a good student in high school, Amie wasn't interested in after school activities such as sports, clubs or community service, like her parents were. She had a part time job since she was 14 years old. One Sunday night when

we were running late to chair a church meeting, she dropped the “bomb” on us. She said she wanted to drop out of school as a junior. When we sat down to talk about her feelings, we were both devastated when she accused us of being “parents from the fifties and not understanding kids today!” (We were *in* elementary school in the fifties. At the time, my husband was and still is a teacher, and I was working as a recreation director planning youth events.)

As we talked things through, we realized that we were not paying attention to Amie’s interests and concerns. We arranged for counseling through our minister (I didn’t know about the Youth Services Unit’s free counseling services then), and agreed to transport her to the regional Medieval Society meetings that she thought she would enjoy. We stayed home more so that Amie’s friends could visit more often in our home. We also agreed to find her an exchange student program if she stayed in school for her senior year.

It wasn’t easy for us to give up some of our community commitments to make more time for Amie and find the financial resources for the semester in Paris. However, she came back from Paris, a mature young woman with greater appreciation for her family, community and country (and, on her own, she legally changed her name from “Amy” to “Amie!”) Amie went on to graduate from SUNY Purchase with a Graphic Arts degree. Of course, every semester her hair was dyed a different color, and we still loved her!

This June Amie and her husband Evan presented us with our first grandson, Oscar Brockway Metcalf. Both work as Art Directors for D.C. Comics and have very different friends and interests than us. Now our family is stronger because of a greater appreciation for the diversity of interests that each member brings to widen our horizons. It is wonderful to see Amie’s and Evan’s great parenting skills. I wonder what lessons Oscar will teach his parents, as he grows older?

2004 OCFS Allocations

The State Fiscal Year 2003-04 appropriation for calendar year 2004 YDDP totaled \$29,684,800 (a reduction of \$3,043,200

from the previous year, which has been applied across the board). The available YDDP funding supports a total per capita of \$4.72 per youth or \$2.12 recreation, \$1.90 service and \$.70 for initiatives. This includes \$1.06 per youth for municipal recreation programs and \$.95 per municipal service programs. Dutchess County’s total YDDP allocation based on 83,780 youth was \$395,422 with \$177,614 for recreation, \$159,182 for service and \$58,646 for initiatives.

The total state SDPP appropriation was \$9,379,000 or reduction of \$1,042,000 from the previous fiscal year. The SDPP A funds appropriation for Dutchess County is \$105,002 that includes \$13,650 for Youth Bureau administration money. There has been no announcement of the SDPP B funds yet. Due to the September 12 notification of the County’s OCFS allocations, the Youth Board only approved the 2004 municipal allocations at their September meeting and will finalize Nonprofit 2004 allocations at their October 21 board meeting.

Youth Bureau 3rd Quarter Reports

The 3rd Quarter Report is due on Wednesday, October 15, 2003. This report should reflect activities and number of youth served during July 1 – September 30, 2003. If your program did not operate during the summer months, please indicate so. Please include any planning tasks that you did for the fall. However, any youth served during the month of September should be reported on in the quarterly report. If you have any questions, please call June Ellen Notaro at 486-3662.

New Faces at the Youth Bureau

We welcome the following new Youth Board Members: Christopher Bellino representing the T/East Fishkill, Fishkill and Wappingers; Bob Ellsworth of Rhinebeck representing the T/ Clinton, Hyde Park, Milan, Red Hook and Rhinebeck; Christopher Hamel and Gordon Walton representing T/Poughkeepsie, and Christopher Slattery representing T/Beekman, Dover and Pawling. Youth members appointed for one year are: Bill Domack, Dutchess Community College, Emily O’Neill, Poughkeepsie High School; Christine Gasparich, Pawling High School; and Meghan Shea, Arlington High School.

We also welcome new Youth Services Unit youth workers Maureen Hernandez and Shayne Pagano. Over the summer, Pamela Green-Smith joined Project Return as a new youth worker.

Youth Bureau's Update

In June, the Youth Board held another successful Luncheon honoring forty students who overcame many personal challenges to succeed, with the County Executive's Youth Excellence Awards called the YEAs. County Executive Steinhaus and various donors presented eight Scholarships, worth a total of \$6,400. Retiring Board member Michael Schiavone was so moved by the event, he offered another \$1,800 for book money on top of the very generous \$3,500 scholarship donation made by Hudson United Bank!

The event also recognized youth workers Diane M. Labenski from the YWCA, and Juliann Simpson, Mental Health Association. Joseph M. Nero from Red Hook High School was awarded the Professional Teacher of the Year honor. Parent volunteer Larry Blasini, nominated by Netherwood Elementary School, was presented with the Dorothy Lasday award for adult volunteer.

Copies of the Annual DC Youth Bureau Report to the Community were distributed at the luncheon. Please call 486-3660 for a copy.

Office of Children and Family Services monitored the Youth Bureau on September 2. They were impressed with many of our forms/documents and asked permission to copy them as "best practices."

The Criminal Justice Council approved the Strategic Plan for Youth Under 21 Years Old Involved in the Criminal Justice System. The plan was developed by the CJC Prevention Subcommittee and includes priorities for program expansion. Call 486-3660 to have the report emailed to you.

Betsy Brockway, Executive Director, Irene Magalaski, DSS Deputy Commissioner, and Dawn Rougeux, United Way Vice President on Community Impact presented information on the

Children's Services Council at the Child Welfare League of America Symposium on Building Communities for 21st Century.

June Ellen Notaro, Youth Programs Analyst was part of the Dutchess County team to attend OJJDP national training in Albany to implement a best practices model for youth gang reduction strategies.

Coming Events

✍ Nov. 1, Saturday, 10AM to 2PM, join us at the Kids First Fair at the Galleria Mall, Route 9, Poughkeepsie. This free event is for families and their children to learn about youth assets through activities provided by our local nonprofit agencies. Enjoy the fun and maybe even win a \$100 mall gift certificate! Sponsored by the DC Children's Services Council and the Youth Asset Team through funds from Dutchess County Government. For more information call 452-1810, ext 14.

🌐 Nov. 20, Thursday, 8:30AM to 3 PM, CSC Fall Conference "Tomorrow's World is in the Hands of Today's Youth" at Villa Borghese, Widmer Rd. Wappingers Falls. Keynote speaker is Josh Shipp, program includes intergenerational community meetings, leadership workshops, and youth groups displays. Call 486-3660 for details.

📅 Dec. 5, Friday, Free Outcome Based Evaluation Training with Dr. Pam Imm and Barry Lentz sponsored by the DC Youth Bureau and United Way, 9 AM to 4 PM, Location TBA. Call 486-3660 for details.

Dutchess County Youth Council

The Youth Council held its Welcome Back meeting September 29 at the Mid-Hudson Children's Museum. If you know a teen age 15 to 20 years who may be interested in joining or just wants additional information, please call June Ellen Notaro at 486-3662. The new member recruitment is open until November 15, 2003.

Youth Council members are gearing up for their major project of implementing the highly

valued youth survey done every three years in local high schools. This project gives our county youth a voice for their concerns and interests. Many agencies use the information on grant applications to fund new youth services.

Due to new legislation, the Youth Council will need to seek passive permission from parents in participating schools. We hope our local high schools will continue to support this survey as they have in the past.

Web Sites of Interest

Nubian Directions II, Inc. (NDI) Community Technology Resource Center has received a grant from the Dyson Foundation to support non-profit organizations in Dutchess County. NDI has established the Technology Assistance Program (TAP) to help non-profits utilize technology more effectively in serving their communities. TAP is a collaborative effort between NDI, Marist College, and the Youth Resource Development Corporation (YRDC). Because NDI understands non-profits and technology, we can help non-profits meet their goals and objectives through mission-based technology planning and direct services. The mission of TAP is to provide consulting services (Technology Planning, Assessments, and Project Management), technical support (Hardware/Software Troubleshooting, Installation/Support and Staff Augmentation), and technology training (Basic to Advanced Computer Training for non-profit staff and/or students). **TAP services are free to non-profit organizations until December 31, 2003, after which services will be fee-based per annum.** For more information visit the website: www.nubiandirections.org, click on Programs for the link to TAP. Interested non-profit organizations should contact Calvin Lane by calling (845) 452-8574 or email: clane@nubiandirections.org right away to request assistance.

Do you have a question about school, family, and community partnerships? If you'd like to get some input from the staff of the Center for Youth Development and Policy Research (CYDPR), you can submit this question to the "Ask an Expert" online tool on The Knowledge Loom. The Knowledge Loom is a free, web-

based professional development resource for educators, produced by The Education Alliance at Brown University. It features a "spotlight" on School, Family, and Community Partnerships that provides a list of principles for effective school and family partnerships, stories about real schools where these principles are being implemented, and research summaries and Web resources to support the principles. It also includes an interactive online tool, Ask an Expert, which allows you to post a question to CYDPR youth development experts Bonnie Politz, Suzanne Le Menestrel, and Elizabeth Partoyan. To explore The Knowledge Loom's School, Family, and Community Partnerships spotlight, go to <http://www.knowledgeloom.org/sfcp>. If you'd like to submit a question, click on "Ask an Expert," fill out some quick registration information, and then click "Add your Question." You'll receive a response within a week.

The Promising Practices in Afterschool (PPAS) Listserv brings together the worlds of youth development, school-age care, and education. On the PPAS website, www.afterschool.org, you can search for promising practices and share your own good work with others to help build the field of afterschool.

Reviewing recent research, this report finds that young teens with strong supportive relationships, challenging and engaging learning activities, and meaningful involvement in decision-making early on are much more likely to be doing well by the end of high school. In contrast, youth with few such relationships, learning activities, or decision-making opportunities are more likely to have poor developmental outcomes at the end of high school, and less likely to have good outcomes in adulthood. <http://www.ydsi.org/YDSI/pdf/WhatMatters.pdf>

The NYS Community Health Data Set (CHDS) at www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/chac/chds00.html, on the web-based Community Health Assessment Clearinghouse (www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/chac/index.html) on the NYS Dept. of Health website, has county-level data for indicators in 19 health focus areas. The Clearinghouse has information and resources related to assessment, planning process, practice and data. The Community Health Data Set has

data in health focus areas including Demographic & Socioeconomic Characteristics; Physical Activity and Fitness; Nutrition; Tobacco Use; Substance Abuse: Alcohol and Other Drugs; Family Planning; Violent & Abusive Behavior; Unintentional Injuries; Oral Health; Maternal and Infant Health; Child & Adolescent Health; Heart Disease & Stroke; Cancer; Chronic Conditions; HIV Infection; Sexually Transmitted Disease; Immunization; & Infectious Diseases.

Connect for Kids, an award-winning multimedia project, helps adults make their communities better places for families and children. The Web site offers a place on the Internet for adults—parents, grandparents, educators, policymakers and others—who want to become more active citizens, from volunteering to voting, with kids in mind. Go online for more information www.connectforkids.org.

The *Summary of Best Practices: Mentor Recruitment*, from MENTOR's Online Community Forum, is a compilation of best practices from your peers in the field and will hopefully serve as a valuable resource. Copies of the summary of best practices can be found at www.mentoring.org/recruitment, and under Find Resources at www.mentoring.org.

The National Resource Center on AD/HD is a new national clearinghouse of information and resources concerning AD/HD. The Web site answers many questions about AD/HD and includes links to other resources. <http://www.help4adhd.org/>

Family violence, including child physical and sexual abuse, child neglect and maltreatment, intimate partner violence, and elder abuse, takes place in homes across the country every day. The new "In the Spotlight" focuses on research in the field of family violence and provides resources to assist in the education and prevention of family violence. Find the latest facts, publications, and legislation, and learn about programs, technical assistance, and grants and funding resources. "In the Spotlight" is a bi-monthly Web-based feature located on the NCJRS Web site, www.ncjrs.org, that focuses on specific aspects of crime, public safety and drug policy. Past topics have included gangs, forensic science, and school safety. Upcoming features will address trafficking in persons and women and

girls in the justice system. View "In the Spotlight: Family Violence" at www.ncjrs.org/family_violence/summary.html.

With the increased availability of the Internet, many youth may be seeking help online, given the accessibility of information and potential for support from others in chat rooms, newsgroups, or other interactive domains. *Adolescent Help-Seeking Behavior: Role of the Internet* is an article that provides an exploratory analysis on the prevalence of adolescents' use of the Internet for help related to emotional problems and how such use may be associated with demographic variables, severity of problems, and use of other resources for help. Please visit the Data Trends web page at <http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/pgDataTrends.html> to view this and all Data Trends. Each Data Trends article summary is available in PDF/Adobe Acrobat format from this main page, <http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/pgDataTrends.html>

Brevity On the Internet is a weekly newsletter about juvenile justice from the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. *Brevity* brings you news and information from around the country and on the Internet. There are two ways to view *Brevity*: <http://www.ncjfcj.org>, look to the right side of your screen and click on the link to *Brevity*, or <http://training.ncjfcj.unr.edu/Brevity.html>.

Child Trends latest research brief, *Left Unsupervised: A Look at the Most Vulnerable Children*, looks at two vulnerable groups, young school-age children and low-income children to get a sense of how many children are "home alone." The brief includes data on the number of children left in "self care", characteristics of these children and their families, and information on the number of hours children are left unsupervised. The findings, along with implications for policy and research, are available at www.childtrends.org/PDF/UnsupervisedRB.pdf

Mentor Manager, Mentor Parent is a guide for developing mentoring relationships at work and at home. It is written by Linda Culp Downing and Cecile Culp Mielenz. For more information go online to www.mentormanagementor-parent.com.

Teen central is an online summit for youth to exchange information with their peers on a variety of subjects. Youth are also provided information on overcoming adversities. You can check the web site at www.teencentral.net.

Chicago Women In Trades provides a virtual library of resources related to engaging young women in nontraditional careers in the fields of construction, transportation, and manufacturing. Visit the web site for more information at www.chicagowomenintrades.org/index.html.

Jobs for the Future has documented strategies about how communities can take advantage of the possibilities offered by emerging, powerful learning environments inside and outside of the schools. To access "Resources on Effective Learning Environments," go online to www.jff.org/Margins/index.html.

The National Clearinghouse on Families & Youth is a resource for communities, organizations, and individuals interested in developing new and effective strategies for supporting young people and their families. It offers: information sharing regarding youth programming and policy, a library on youth related issues; publications development including community education guides and technical assistance publications; and outreach to develop improved practices for strengthening youth and families. The Clearinghouse also supports the Positive Youth Development approach that suggests that the best way to prevent young people's involvement in risky behavior is to help them achieve their full potential. To find out more please visit the web site at www.ncfy.com.

Safeguarding our young people is paramount for mentoring organizations. Effective this past August, mentor screening reached a new level of security with the SafetyNET Pilot Program. Through SafetyNET, mentoring organizations can request FBI fingerprint background checks on prospective mentors to determine whether those individuals have a criminal background. The FBI will send the criminal histories of prospective mentors to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children for a "fitness determination." The Dept. of Justice will use the results of the pilot program

to study the weaknesses of the current national background check system and make recommendations for a workable, permanent solution. Until a permanent solution is found, the pilot program represents a significant step forward in making national background checks available and affordable for all human service organizations. To apply to this program, or for more information, go to www.mentoring.org/safetynet.

A new series of four papers from the Funders' Collaborative on Youth Organizing explores the influences of community organizing and youth development on youth organizing, characteristics common to youth organizing and three primary issue areas around which youth organizing efforts are focused (public school reform, criminal justice, and environmental justice). The appendix presents a digest of research and reports, reflections from the field, and youth organizing curricula and toolkits. Check it out at www.fcyo.org/resources/html.

The American Psychological Association published an article titled "Violence and Risk of PTSD, Major Depression, Substance Abuse/Dependence, and Comorbidity: Results from the National Survey of Adolescents" by Dean G. Kilpatrick and his colleagues from the National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center at the Medical University of South Carolina. The study finds that roughly 16% of the boys and 19% of the girls (ages 12-17 years) met the criteria for at least one of the following diagnosis: posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), major depressive episode and substance abuse/dependence. The study suggests that interpersonal violence (i.e. sexual and physical assault, witnessed violence) increased the risk of PTSD, major depressive episode and substance abuse/dependence. This finding adds to the growing body of research establishing a link between interpersonal violence and mental health outcomes. To view the full text of the article, go to www.apa.org/journals/ccp/press_releases/august_2003/ccp714692.html.

The ACT for Youth Upstate Center of Excellence Research Facts and Findings, June 2003 issue, discusses the topic of adolescent self-esteem. The article notes that self-esteem is a subjective state and is difficult to measure. While

self-esteem is influenced by factors such as gender, ethnicity, and social class, it can also vary within an individual. An adolescent may have different levels of self-esteem in different areas such as social, scholastics, athletics, appearance, and gender conduct and actions. For programs interested in raising adolescents' self-esteem, the following strategies which have been supported by research were suggested: "identify the core factors that cause self-esteem and at the same time identify the domains of competence that are important to the teen; focus on sources of emotional support and social approval that exist in the adolescent's world; increase self-esteem through emphasizing achievement of specific skills and goals and by encouraging initiative; support coping with difficult situations and trying to overcome them, rather than avoiding them." If you are interested in this article or other youth development resources, go to www.human.cornell.edu/actforyouth.

Childhood Obesity has received much media attention and has raised our concerns regarding both the physical and psychological health of our youth. In a recent article, the American Medical Association reported that 15% of 6-19 year olds in this country are overweight. Factors contributing to the rising rates of obesity include more hours spent in sedentary activities (TV viewing, computer and video games) and the availability of fast food choices and super size portions of fast food that are high in fat and sugar. Parents can positively influence the way their family eats. Some healthy guidelines recommended by the US Surgeon General's Office are: eat a healthy breakfast; encourage your child to eat when hungry and to eat slowly; eat meals together as a family; don't place your child on a restrictive diet; carefully cut down on the amount of fat and calories your family consumes; guide your family's choices rather than dictating foods; avoid use of food as a reward; avoid withholding food as a punishment; encourage children to drink more water and fewer soft drinks and sports drinks; stock the refrigerator with healthy snacks, low fat milk, fruits and vegetables; and discourage eating meals or snacks while watching TV. Another important item is exercise. Children need to get moving and get physically active. For more information, go to the ACT for Youth web site at www.human.cornell.edu/actforyouth.

America's Online SafetyNET Directory provides a large database to help people locate and access public and private benefits and services. Parents can find information about services such as child care assistance, federal benefits and insurance. They will also find updates on health and safety concerns and links to ethnic websites. The site is run by the Portsmouth Group, a software company that develops and sells technology to help organizations assist those in need of finding services. Go online for more info at www.isafetynet.org.

White Bedroom is a basic but excellent website devoted to educating youth about HIV/AIDS and safe sex. Acknowledging that abstinence is the safest option, the site offers frank discussion of safe sexual behavior and links young viewers to relevant websites. The site is sponsored by the Elton John AIDS Foundation and the MAC AIDS Fund and can be found at www.whitebedroom.com.

The American Lung Association has an online teen smoking cessation program and it is free. Check it out at www.nothead.org.

Some high schools require their students to perform community service as part of their school experience. Two researchers from Catholic University conducted a study of students from a public high school in a middle-class suburban town outside Boston. They evaluated the impact of requiring community service for the classes of 2001 and 2002, comparing those students with the class of 2000, which did not have to perform community service. The researchers found that the students who were required to do community service volunteered at increasing rates over time, while their participation in required service decreased over time. For students who were not required to perform community service, rates of volunteerism increased from grade 10 to 11, and decreased slightly from grade 11 to 12. Interestingly, the students in their junior year that indicated they had low intentions of volunteering after high school actually reported they had greater "future intentions" after having completed their community service in their senior year. The experience of service, even though required, seems to have increased these students'

intentions to volunteer in the future. The researchers hope that community service requirements encourage the habit of participation for individuals after high school. The study, titled "A Demonstration That School-Based Required Service Does Not Deter-But Heightens-Volunteerism," by Metz and Youniss, can be viewed at www.apsanet.org/PS/april03/metz.cfm.

"*Relationships Between Bullying and Violence Among U.S. Youth*," a study by Nansel, Overpeck, Haynie, Ruan, and Scheidt, appeared in Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine, April 2003. The study is based on more than 15,000 students who participated in Health Behavior in School-aged Children (HBSC), a nationally representative survey of youth in grades 6 through 10. They were questioned about how often they carried weapons for self-defense, fought or required treatment for fight-related injuries, how often they were bullied both in school and away from school, and how often they had bullied others. The results indicated that violence-related behaviors were more common in boys (ranging from 13% to 27% who reported each behavior) than girls (ranging from 4% to 11%). Being bullied in school was more frequent than being bullied away from school. Bullying and being bullied, either in school or elsewhere, were related to each of the violence-related behaviors. The youth most likely to carry a weapon reported bullying others in or away from school or being bullied away from school. Since the violent behaviors were intertwined, the researchers did an analysis and found that each of the behaviors was important on their own, but also formed a strong pattern when looked at together. For example, youth who were sometimes bullied in and away from school, and who also bullied others away from school weekly, were 15.9 times more likely to carry a weapon. The researchers concluded that bullying often occurs in conjunction with more serious aggressive behavior, and should not be considered a normal and accepted part of youth behavior, even though it is common. They suggest that programs aimed at reducing violent behavior should also try to reduce bullying since it is associated with carrying weapons and other behaviors that are linked to violence.

Grant Information

RadioShack Corp., the Fort Worth, Texas-based consumer electronics retailer, is now accepting applications for its Neighborhood Answers Grant program. The program, which began this year, is designed to fund worthy causes that help families protect children from abduction, violence, and abuse. To be considered for a Neighborhood Answers Grant, an organization must be a tax-exempt nonprofit designated as a 501(c)(3) by the IRS, offer solutions to help prevent family violence/abuse and/or child abduction, and directly impact or benefit, through programs or services, a RadioShack community. Grant requests should be limited to \$500 or less in value. Applications for the grants will be accepted year-round. This year, grants will be awarded in August and November. Applications will be evaluated by local RadioShack review councils. Applications for the Neighborhood Answers Grant are available in stores and at the RadioShack corporate Web site, http://www.radioshackcorporation.com/cr/contrib_program.html.

Firstgov maintains a federal grants website at <http://www.grants.gov/>. Check out the pilot grants website, scroll to the bottom and click on "find grant opportunities." Then click on "applicants." Then click on "applicants notification service" and decide what notices you'd like to subscribe to.

Starbucks Foundation funds local programs that serve low-income, at-risk youth through its Youth Leadership Grant Program. Grants range from \$5,000 to \$20,000 and are given in two areas:

- 1) Power of Literacy -- Funding for programs that stimulate personal development and a commitment to social equity, justice, and environmental awareness through writing, literacy and expression in public forums.
- 2) Leaders in Diversity -- Funding for programs that teach the value of societal diversity and develop youth leadership skills to foster understanding between individuals, groups and communities.

For complete program information, applications, and examples of past recipients, see the web site, www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp.

YouthActionNet provides small grants to youth leaders to support projects that promote social change and connect youths with local communities. Projects must have clearly defined goals and the potential for growth or further duplication. Award recipients will receive \$500, funds for a disposable camera to document their project for an online photo gallery, and an opportunity to participate in an online journal. Those who can apply are individuals and groups of individuals between the ages of 18 and 24. Applicants must have a leadership role in a youth-led project designed to create positive change in their community. The deadline to submit applications is October 1, 2003. For additional information, contact YouthActionNet at (410) 951-1500, e-mail info@youthactionnet.org.

Nonprofits with child care and after-school programs can apply for funds from the Rosie's for All Kids Foundation. The organization accepts letters of intent throughout the year, with funds awarded in March and October. For additional information, check the website at www.4allkids.com.

The NYS Office of Children and Family Services is pleased to offer NYS nonprofit contractors the opportunity to sign up for a free grant information email service. Internet grant announcements related to areas including AIDS, aging, art, community development, economic development, education, environment, health, and family services will be sent to your email address on a daily basis. The grant list can be high volume at times. If you are interested in joining this listserv, please contact Susan Kemp via email at Susan.Kemp@dfa.state.ny.us.

The Hasbro Children's Foundation is committed to improving the emotional, mental, and physical well-being of children from birth through age 12 and their families through the support of innovative direct service programs in the areas of health, education, and social services. The foundation funds nonprofit organizations only. Requests for funding are reviewed on a rolling basis. See the web site for complete funding guidelines at www.hasbro.org.

Tobacco Use and the New York State Pro-Kids Act of 1994

On July 26, 1994, Governor Cuomo signed into law new legislation known as the New York State Pro-Kids Act of 1994. This act amends both the Public Health Law and the Education Law to curtail exposure to tobacco use and prohibit out-of-package sales of tobacco products. Sponsors of the legislation were Senator Tully and Assemblymen Grannis, Gottfried, and Eve. This act took effect on August 25, 1994. The State Pro-Kids Act of 1994 directly affects both public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools.

The New York State Pro-Kids Act prohibits tobacco use in school buildings, on school grounds, and in any vehicle used by a school, such as school buses or vans.

Schools, when reviewing the tobacco use issues, need not only be knowledgeable about the new State Pro-Kids Act, but also other tobacco use legislation such as the New York State Clean Indoor Air Act of 1989 and U.S. Title X of Goals 2000: Pro-Children Act of 1994. An Overview of the State Pro-Kids Act Provisions of the act which affect public and nonpublic schools are:

■ Section 1 of the act amends subdivision 9 of Section 1399-n of the Public Health Law to define school grounds as: "any building, structure, and surrounding outdoor grounds contained within a public or private pre-school, nursery school, elementary or secondary school's legally defined property boundaries as registered in a county clerk's office, and any vehicle used to transport children or school personnel."

■ Section 2 of the act amends subdivision 1 of Section 1399-o of the Public Health Law to state: Smoking shall not be permitted and no person shall smoke in the following indoor areas open to the public: auditoriums, elevators, gymnasiums, enclosed indoor areas open to the public containing a swimming pool, classrooms, public means of mass transportation including buses, vans, taxicabs, and limousines, youth centers and facilities for detention, child day care centers, group homes for children, public institutions for

children, and residential treatment facilities for children and youth.

■ Section 3 of the act adds a "new" subdivision 8 of Section 1399-o of the Public Health Law to read: "Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, rule or regulation, tobacco use shall not be permitted and no person shall use tobacco on school grounds; provided, however, that smoking by adult faculty and staff members may be permitted in a designated smoking area during non-school hours. For purposes of this section, school hours shall include any student activity that is supervised by faculty or staff or any officially sanctioned school event." (The legislation does not define non-school hours.)

■ Section 4 of the act amends subdivision 2 (to add to Section 409 of Education Law) to read: "Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, rule or regulation, tobacco use shall not be permitted and no person shall use tobacco on school grounds; provided, however, that smoking by adult faculty and staff members may be permitted in a designated smoking room during non-school hours. For purposes of this section, school hours include any student activity that is supervised by faculty or staff or any officially sanctioned school event. "School grounds" means any building, structure, and surrounding outdoor grounds contained within a public or private pre-school, nursery school, elementary or secondary school's legally defined property boundaries as registered in a county clerk's office."

■ Section 5 of the act amends subdivision 4 (Section 3020-a of Education Law) to read: "No person enjoying the benefits of tenure shall be suspended for a fixed time without pay or dismissed due to a violation of article thirteen-E of the public health law." Article thirteen-E of the Public Health Law contains New York State Pro-Kids Act provisions. (Section 3020-a of the Education Law as amended by Chapter 691 of the law of 1994)

■ Section 8 of the act reads: "This act shall take effect 30 days after it shall have become a law, except that the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of the act shall not supercede any collective bargaining agreement, during its term, in existence on the effective date of this act."

Legislative Implications Regarding Tobacco Use In Schools

In addressing the legislative implications for tobacco use and schools, administrators must review the Federal Goals 2000: Pro-Children Act of 1994; the New York State Clean Indoor Air Act of 1989; and the New York State Pro-Kids Act of 1994. In determining which legislation requirement takes precedent, the rule of thumb is that the most stringent requirement is the one to comply with. Following are some examples of how all the legislation interacts on the situation.

■ Presently, the State Pro-Kids Act allows tobacco use in a school building only during non-school hours and then only in a designated smoking area. However, the Federal Pro-Children Act, which takes effect on December 26, 1994, prohibits any tobacco use in any school building at any time. This means that persons in the school building for evening events such as continuing education and evening custodial employees are not permitted to smoke. (Goals 2000: Pro-Children Act and New York State Pro-Kids Act)

■ Employee collective bargaining agreements, which address smoking may not be re-negotiated or renewed once they expire. Staff with agreements, which currently permit smoking may smoke only during non-school hours and then only in a designated area. (Goals 2000: Pro-Children Act and New York State Pro-Kids Act)

■ Tobacco use is not permitted on school grounds during school hours or at any officially sanctioned school event. This includes athletic events (football games, etc.) and any other event officially sanctioned by the school, such as Bingo games, community events, and fairs. (New York State Pro-Kids Act)

■ Tobacco use is not permitted at any time in vehicles used for school purposes, regardless of whether or not students are on board. This includes school buses, vans, taxicabs, and limousines. (New York State Pro-Kids Act)

■ Without exception, the use of smokeless tobacco, such as snuff and chewing tobacco, is prohibited on school grounds at all times. (New York State Pro-Kids Act)

Enforcement of the New York State Pro-Kids Act

The New York State Pro-Kids Act will be enforced by New York State County Departments of Health, City Boards of Health, or the New York State Department of Health district offices, where applicable, under the New York State Clean Indoor Air Act of 1989. There are civil penalties and fines associated with non-compliance of this law.

Legal References of Tobacco Use in Schools

■ Federal Pro-Children Act of 1994 (Title X of Goals 2000: Educate America Act)

■ New York State Clean Indoor Air Act of 1989 (Public Health Law; Article 13-E and 13-F)

■ New York State Pro-Kids Act of 1994 (amends Public Health Law and Education Law)

For further information regarding the New York State Pro-Kids Act of 1994, you may contact your local BOCES Health and Safety Office or the Central Services Team 1 - Facilities Planning at (518) 474-3906. For legal opinion on specific tobacco use issues, contact the New York State Education Department's Office of Counsel at (518) 474-6400. ■

Dutchess County Youth Council Volunteers ...



In April during Spring Break, June Ellen Notaro's Youth Council members volunteered to man the kitchen to help prepare and serve a meal at the Lunch Box. This has become an annual activity for the group, and well attended!

Highlights of this year's Youth Board YEA Awards Luncheon held on June 5, 2003 at Dutchess Community College

